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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Attendance at Department of the Army Seminar

1. On 24 and 25 June I attended several sessions of the Army ACSI-sponsored seminar, "Perspectives on Strategic Intelligence and National Security," at Fort McNair.


2. The first day's sessions were devoted to substantive matters concerning the international resource and financial environment; important politico-military factors in the mid-1970's; and how these considerations bore on strategic intelligence. These presentations were broadly tutorial and non-controversial.

3. The 25 June sessions covered, from my point of view, a far more interesting set of topics. Each speaker focused on some aspect of the need for intelligence in a democratic society and the dilemmas this poses for our institutions and for the intelligence organizations themselves. Because of schedule conflicts I missed the opening remarks by General Walters and the closing remarks by General Goodpaster, but I was able to attend sessions in which the following speakers addressed the seminar:

Dr. Paul Holman, Georgetown University
Mr. Bill Miller, Senate Select Committee Staff
Mr. Ray Cline, Georgetown University
Dr. Harry Howe Ransom, Woodrow Wilson Center
General Robert Gard, US Army
Prof. Earl Ravenal, Johns Hopkins University
Dr. Fritz Kraemer, US Army
Representative Paul McCloskey, Congressman

4. The tone of most of the speakers was contemplative and questioning rather than assertive. The question of how to conduct national security planning within open institutions was explored from many angles--including recourse to Thucydides--with rather bland results. There was general acceptance that changes would occur favoring greater public awareness and more institutional safeguards over intelligence, but no flat predictions of the outcome. Bill Miller and Congressman McCloskey--two important players--were particularly careful to present non-doctrinaire positions, though their stress was more on the arguments for openness than on the risks to the intelligence process.

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